Anti-Slavery Office,
New York, 3 Oct., 1861.

115

My Dear Garrison,

I am very glad to learn that you are engaged to attend the Pa. Anniversary—glad, first, for the sake of the cause, and next for my own sake, in view of the opportunity to be thus afforded of once more seeing you face to face. For some weeks past I have had no desire (save that for the emancipation of the slaves) stronger than the desire to see and talk with you. It is a great drawback to my pleasure in working at this post that I am cut off from daily communion with

those who direct our grand move-
ment, and who, in many im-
portant emergencies, might give
me the light and strength so much
need. I watch for your utterances,
my dear Garrison, from week to week,
in the Liberator, as the tempest-
tost mariner watches for the
sun, or the fugitive slave for the
North Star; and I cannot tell
you the joy it has given me
to find that your every word
and act has been in perfect
accordance with my divinest
instincts. It has been my satisfaction
for thirty years, that, while I never
consciously sacrificed my personal
independence, I have almost inva-

vidly found myself seeing "eye to eye" with you; but in no former crisis of our cause has your course commended itself more completely to my judgment than during the present war. I have felt that you were under Divine guidance in the counsel which from time to time you have given to the friends of the cause, not less than when you first lifted up your voice in behalf of the oppressed.

But I had no thought of saying this when I began to write; I took my pen for a very different purpose, which I will now disclose. I have an earnest, heartfelt desire that you should, if possible, spend two or three

days with us as you pass through
New York to Pennsylvania. I want
you to come directly to our lodging
No. 90 E. Twelfth St. We have a nice
room at your service, and our
home is very pleasant. We have
often been your guests, and now
we covet the satisfaction of having
you for ours. It will really be a
great privilege and joy to us if
you will come; and if your wife
can come with you, so much the
better. We shall be glad to have
you spend with us the Sunday
preceding the Pa. meeting. There
are, you know, many objects
of interest to be seen in this city
and vicinity, and we shall take
pleasure in seeing them with you.
There are persons also who desire an

opportunity for once to see you under circumstances more favorable for social intercourse than those of our anniversaries. It is my special desire, for reasons which concern the best interests of our cause, and especially of the Standard, in this city, to bring together, at our lodgings, on some evening during your stay, a few friends who ought to be better acquainted with you and with each other.

The time of the Pa. meeting is not yet fixed, but I suppose it will be announced next week in the Standard. Meanwhile let me know if you can and will accede to my request. For special reasons, I desire to hear from

you shortly. Of course, my dear Garrison, if you have formed other plans for your journey, that are more agreeable to your feelings, or that, for any reason, you are constrained to fulfil, I would not have you set them aside for my accommodation. I have unreservedly disclosed the desire of my wife and myself, but we would not embarrass you in any way, or put you under the least constraint. If the plan we propose accords with your feelings, we shall rejoice; if not, you must be as free to decline as we have been to invite.

Mrs. Johnson returned

from New Hampshire a little more than a week ago. She is not as well as I could wish, but I hope she will be stronger ere long.

As soon as I learn exactly when the Pa. meeting is to be held, we can talk more definitely as to the plan I have proposed.

Mary Anne joins me in kind remembrances for you and your household.

Yours, unfaltering,

Oliver Johnson.

O. J. N.Y. Oct. 8, 1861.